

SOILS

Planning and development for the future growth of Jackson County requires an understanding of the local soils limitations. Determination of soil types and their capability to handle structural development is necessary to avoid public health problems as growth occurs in the county. Soil limitations are especially important in a county such as Jackson where second-home developments are becoming more and more abundant. Second home developments often consists of small lots and almost always depend on septic tanks for sewage disposal. Even with public water provided, septic tanks on small lots will constitute a potential health hazard. Septic tank installation is regulated by the State Health Board. Soils limitations ratings should not be the only criteria used for determining land use, but they certainly should be considered when attempting to determine appropriate facility location.

Soils analysis is important to developers, as well as to the general public, in guiding the location of large buildings and in alerting builders to potential problems with construction on particular soils. Certain soil associations have limitations as to use for development. Jackson County citizens involved in planning and development of the community should be aware of these limitations.

A general soil map of Jackson County indicates the location and extent of the six soil association groups. The soil map provides information on general soil series needed to plan the efficient use of the county's land resources. The soil map provides only general information concerning soil classification and recommended uses. (See Map 1) Anyone seeking more detailed information should contact the Jackson County Soil Conservationist. Also, the Jackson County Health Department should be contacted with regard to soil associations series of Jackson County are described as follows: